10.24

10.15

san francisco cinematheque

september - december 2006

IN PERSON

Bruce Baillie
Zoe Beloff
Bill Berkson
Loren Chasse
Sandra Davis
Nathaniel Dorsky
Keith Evans
Miranda July
Angelina Krahn
The Lemurians
Christopher Musgrave
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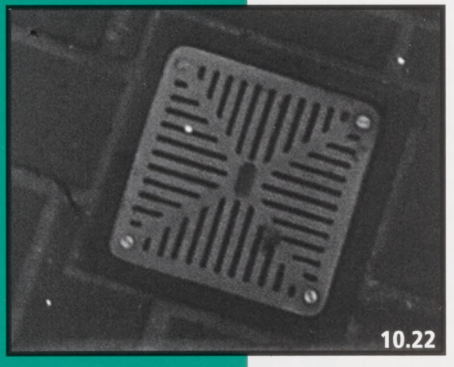
Tomonari Nishikawa
Trevor Paglen
Phase Chancellor
Hannes Schüpbach
Speculative Archive
Barbara Sternberg
Akram Zaatari
...and more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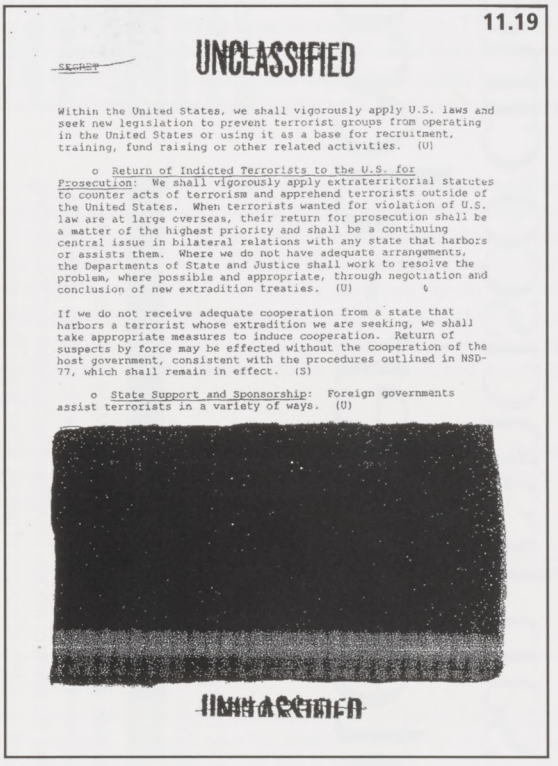
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at Project Artaud Theater.
A benefit for San Francisco Cinematheque, this is her only Bay Area appearance.
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grants for the Arts
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RETURN
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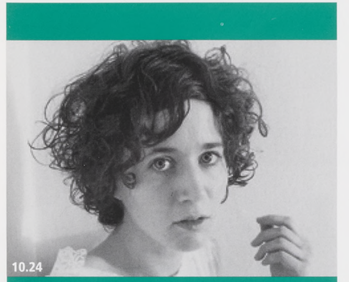

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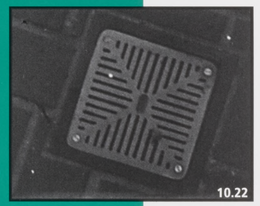

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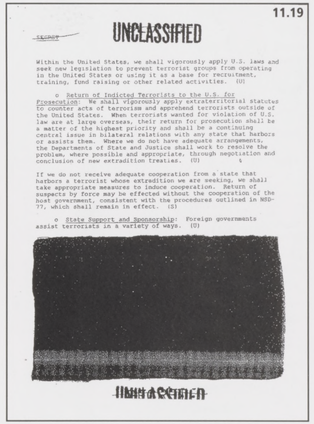

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MADCAT SPECIAL
Friday, September 22 at 7:30 pm, ATA, 992 Valencia St.
Presented in Association with MadCat Women's International Film Festival

Surveillance Times

Rebecca Baron's exploration of the British Mass Observation Movement, ***How Little We Know of Our Neighbours***, receives its San Francisco premiere in this program of innovative documentaries revealing the power of modern surveillance technologies and the whittling away of civil liberties and upending of notions of privacy. Other works show renegade independent radio stations keeping activism alive by stealing from the corporate airwaves, and ubiquitous video cameras capturing a steady stream of unguarded moments. For full description, see www.madcatfilmfestival.org. *(Curated byAriella Ben-Dov, MadCat)*

MADCAT SPECIAL
Saturday, September 23 at 7:30 pm, YBCA
Presented in Association with MadCat Women's International Film Festival

Charming Augustine in 3-D
ZOE BELOFF IN PERSON

Based on a nineteenth century case study of a young woman who was admitted to La Salpêtrière insane asylum at age fifteen, ***Charming Augustine*** re-imagines her psychosis and explores connections between attempts to document mental states and the prehistory of narrative film. Beloff's remarkable 3-D film of love and madness reveals Augustine, who became the star, the "Sarah Bernhardt" of the asylum. For full description and other 3-D screenings by Beloff and others, see www.madcatfilmfestival.org. *(Curated by Ariella Ben-Dov, MadCat)*

AVANT-GARDE HISTORY
Sunday, October 1 at 7:30 pm, YBCA

Notes on Marie Menken

Martina Kudlácek *(In the Mirror of Maya Deren)* turns her archivist's eye and passion for the avant-garde to a less publicly fêted woman: Marie Menken, star of *Chelsea Girls* and pioneering filmmaker in her own right. ***Notes on Marie Menken*** includes rare footage of Menken and her milieu (Warhol, Gerard Malanga, husband Willard Maas) as well as interviews with friends and colleagues Stan Brakhage, Jonas Mekas, Kenneth Anger, and others. Revealing Menken's creative life, Kudlácek affirms her powerful legacy to avant-garde film history. *(Caroline Savage)*

AVANT-GARDE HISTORY
Sunday, October 8 at 7:30 pm, YBCA

Films of Marie Menken

Capturing fragments of light, color and texture of the world while becoming one body with her camera, Marie Menken blazed a pioneering trail for filmmakers to follow. Her exquisitely seen and constructed films had no predecessor and have been declared "filmic haikus," revealing the intimate observations of an artist fascinated with natural mysteries and camera-eye discoveries. ***Andy Warhol***, ***Arabesque for Kenneth Anger***, ***Visual Variations on Noguchi***, ***Notebook***, ***Eye Music in Red Major***, and more will be shown, alongside ***Valentine for Marie*** by Willard Maas and John Hawkins. *(Caroline Savage)*

BAY AREA ROOTS AND REITERATIONS
Sunday, October 15 at 7:30 pm, YBCA
Presented in Association with Canyon Cinema

Early Bruce Baillie and the Canyon CinemaNews Years
BRUCE BAILLIE IN PERSON

If any film artist has succeeded in portraying the beauty and cruelty of San Francisco, it is Bruce Baillie. In his marvelous first film, ***On Sundays***, and the later ***Mass for the Dakota Sioux***, Baillie evokes the city and its human and physical landscapes in the early sixties. Mournful rather than celebratory, revealing idiosyncratic details rather clichéd sites, Baillie's films include elliptical narrative elements as they weave images and sounds into exquisite city sonatas. We also screen several early CinemaNews works by Baillie with friends: ***Mr. Hayashi***, ***Here I am***, ***The Gymnasts***, and ***Termination***. *(Irina Leimbacher)*

WE CO-PRESENT WITH, CANYON CINEMA, AN EVENING OF FILMS BY CHICK STRAND CURATED BY BRUCE BAILLIE, ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13 AT 8 PM, 145 NINTH STREET. SEE WWW.NINTHSTREET.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION.

IN PERSON PREMIERE
Sunday, October 22 at 7:30 pm, YBCA

Thread, Frame, and Flicker
ANGELINA KRAHN AND TOMONARI NISHIKAWA IN PERSON

The art of cinema may be ultimately optical and auditory, but its processes are chemical, electrical and material. Two young Bay Area-based film artists, Krahn and Nishikawa refract landscape and gesture through the technology called cinema and orchestrate its traces into expressive nuance and delicate visual pleasure. They will each screen a selection of their work with rent and re-sewn 16mm film, hand processed emulsions, pinhole and slit-aperture videos and pixilated films. *(Konrad Steiner)*

SF CINEMATHEQUE BENEFIT: TICKETS $20
Monday, Tuesday, October 23 and 24 at 8:00 pm, Project Artaud Theater

Miranda July Live!
MIRANDA JULY IN PERSON

Filmmaker, writer and performer Miranda July is no stranger to the Bay Area (she grew up in Berkeley) nor to Cinematheque, where she has shown *The Amateurist*, *Nest of Tens* and performed *The Swan Tool*. Internationally acclaimed since the success of *Me and You and Everyone We Know*, July graces us with a special two-night-only performance at Project Artaud to benefit San Francisco Cinematheque. In collaboration with the audience, she will perform a story of love, obsession and heartbreak. This multi-media production is a work-in-progress that will be shot as a feature film in Spring 2007 *(Cinematheque staff)*

IN PERSON PREMIERE
Sunday, October 29 at 7:30 pm, YBCA

Winter Fire
HANNES SCHÜPBACH IN PERSON

With a meticulous attention to detail and exquisite sensuality, Hannes Schüpbach's beautifully photographed films are elegant weaves of color and light, forming meditative and precisely timed tapestries of wonder and revery. Similar to the rigorously lyrical works of Robert Beavers and Nathaniel Dorsky, Schüpbach's films transcend their diaristic origins and present the world anew, as luminous silent mystery. He joins us tonight from his native Switzerland to present ***Toccata***, ***Falten*** and ***Winter Feuer***. Copies of two publications on his work—*Falten* and *Film Solo*—will be available at the screening. Thanks to Swiss Films for their support of this program. *(Steve Polta)*

IN PERSON PREMIERE
Wednesday, November 1 at 7:30 pm, CCA

Flesh of this World
SANDRA DAVIS AND BARBARA STERNBERG IN PERSON

San Francisco-based Sandra Davis and Toronto-based Barbara Sternberg have been making hand-wrought, corporeal, and feminist films since the late 1970s. Cinematheque brings them together to screen new works in which they reflect on their own flesh and that of the world. While Davis' ***Ignorance Before Malice*** explores a deeply personal journey of her battles with disability, Sternberg's ***Tabula Rasa*** juxtaposes her own aging body with images of the eternally young Virgin Mary. Her new films, ***Surfacing*** and ***Praise***, are lush poems celebrating the fleeting and transient. *(Irina Leimbacher)*

MILITARY CULTURES
Sunday, November 5 at 7:30 pm, YBCA
Presented in Association with SF Camerawork

War Archives: *Oh, Uomo!*
BY YERVANT GIANIKIAN AND ANGELA RICCI LUCCHI

Lauded at Cannes, the finale of Yervant Gianikian and Angela Ricci Lucchi's World War One trilogy examines the effect of warfare on the human body. ***Oh, Uomo!*** (*Oh, Man!*) is the fruit of the artists' extensive research in historical and medical film archives. While the visceral images of shattered but living bodies, as well science's attempts to repair and document them, orginate in the aftermath of the first "modern" war, they speak clamorously about the wars being waged with even more technological ferocity today. With ***Transparencies***, a peek at more mutilated cinematic treasures. *(Irina Leimbacher)*

LIVE CINEMA LAB
Thursday, November 9 at 7:30 pm, Ninth Street
Co-Sponsored by Ninth Street Independent Film Center

Neither Here Nor There
LOREN CHASSE AND KEITH EVANS IN PERSON

The carrier wind listens to itself. Sound and image artists Loren Chasse and Keith Evans present a special handcrafted multi-media event, beginning with the observers/ audience entering into an intimate performance space and concluding in a screening room. For Chasse and Evans, awareness of landscape is a creative, physical phenomenon, and intention in performance creates an ecology of attention. Using idiosyncratic cinematic systems constructed from old projectors and sound devices with found materials grafted onto them, Chasse and Evans open apparatus-bodies in absurd and mysterious ways.

BAY AREA ROOTS AND REITERATIONS/ IN PERSON PREMIERE
Sunday, November 12 at 7:30 pm, YBCA
Presented in Association with Pacific Film Archive

True to Life
GUNVOR NELSON IN PERSON

Joining us from her native Sweden, much-loved Bay Area artist and teacher Gunvor Nelson returns to Cinematheque and Pacific Film Archive with several new video works. The half-hour ***True to Life*** is a lush close-up study of a garden in which flowers and plants bare their life force and cycle to Nelson's probing digital camera. This is accompanied by two earlier collage films combining cinematography and animated painting. ***Light Years*** journeys through the Swedish landscape and reflects on time and displacement while ***Field Study #2*** is a delightful cinematic enigma. Nelson has two additional screenings at PFA, see www.bampfa.berkeley.edu. *(Irina Leimbacher)*

POETS ON FILM
Friday, November 17 at 7:30 pm, CCA
Co-Sponsored by The Poetry Center, San Francisco State University

As The Great Earth Rolls On
A FRANK O'HARA BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE
BILL BERKSON, JULIAN BROLASKI, DAN FISHER IN PERSON

To celebrate what would have been poet Frank O'Hara's 80th birthday, we present a mix of film and poetry in several permutations. Poet and essayist Bill Berkson discusses and reads from O'Hara's work. The American Poetry Archives at SF State contributes rare footage of the poet in his milieu. Theater director Mac McGinnes collages text from O'Hara's plays into an alternate, subversive dialog for a scene from *Trouble in Paradise*, one of O'Hara's favorite films, and Dan Fisher and Julian Brolaski perform it live to the film. Finally, we screen ***The Last Clean Shirt***, the poet's collaboration with artist and filmmaker Alfred Leslie. *(Steve Dickison, Konrad Steiner)*

MILITARY CULTURES / IN PERSON PREMIERE
Sunday, November 19 at 7:30 pm, YBCA

Sites and Silences
SPECULATIVE ARCHIVE AND TREVOR PAGLEN IN PERSON

Known for their critical interrogation of political violence and documentary strategies, Speculative Archive (Julia Meltzer + David Thorne) presents their new work shot in Damascus, Syria. It reflects on "how citizens think through a complex political context in which thinking itself is crippled by uncertainty, secrecy, and fear" (SA). Experimental geographer Trevor Paglen follows with a multi-media lecture/performance, ***Tracking the CIA's 'Torture Planes'*** based on research for his new book *Torture Taxi* (with AC Thompson). He investigates planes and prisons used in the US government's covert program to kidnap, "render," and "disappear" suspected terrorists. *(Irina Leimbacher)*

WE ALSO CO-PRESENT A PUBLIC LECTURE BY SPECULATIVE ARCHIVE AT CALIFORNIA COLLEGE OF THE ARTS ON TUESDAY, NOV 21 AT 7:30 PM. SEE WWW.CCA.EDU FOR MORE INFORMATION.

MILITARY CULTURES
Sunday, December 3 at 7:30 pm, YBCA
Presented in Association with Pacific Film Archive, San Francisco Art Institute, Arab Film Festival

Military Culture
FILMS FROM SYRIA, TURKEY, PALESTINE, ISRAEL
AKRAM ZAATARI IN PERSON

The films in "Military Culture" reflect the loss civil space to military institutions and ethos. Part of a series curated by Akram Zaatari (co-founder of the Arab Image Foundation in Beirut and renowned videomaker) for the 2006 Oberhausen Festival, this program includes Oussama Mohammad's exquisitely shot portrait of the militarization of rural life in Syria, Sharif Waked's caustic fashion show for Palestinian men crossing Israeli checkpoints, Köken Ergun's video installation on the militaristic pageantry of Turkish nationalism, Avi Mograbi's depiction of an excruciating stand-off between a Palestinian family and an Israeli tank, and more. Zaatari will present additional programs from the "Radical Closure" series at PFA, see www.bampfa.berkeley.edu *(Irina Leimbacher)*

WE ALSO CO-PRESENT A PUBLIC LECTURE BY AKRAM ZAATARI AT SAN FRANCISCO ART INSTITUTE ON WEDNESDAY, NOV 29 AT 7:30 PM. SEE WWW.SFAI.EDU FOR MORE INFORMATION.

IN PERSON PREMIERE
Sunday, December 10 at 7:30 pm, YBCA

Silent Songs
NATHANIEL DORSKY IN PERSON

Nathaniel Dorsky's new ***Song and Solitude*** (2006) was conceived and photographed with the loving help and kindness of his close friend Susan Vigil during the last year of her life. Its balance is more toward an expression of inner landscape, or what it feels like to be, rather than an exploration of the external visual world as such. This latest film will be shown with ***Threnody*** and ***The Visitation***. Dorsky's films refine the everyday into a luminous image, which is neither here, nor beyond the here and now. *(Konrad Steiner)*

LIVE CINEMA LAB
Thursday, December 14 at 7:30 pm, Ninth St.
Co-Sponsored by Ninth Street Independent Film Center

Chamber of Live Wanders
CHRISTOPHER MUSGRAVE, THE LEMURIANS AND PHASE CHANCELLOR IN PERSON

Investigating aural-optic perception and the foundations of cinema, Christopher Musgrave creates an immersive, live audio-visual environment. He will install Alpha Channel, a sensory integration environment that will be viewable externally (objectively) from the street through frosted windows and internally (subjectively) in the Ninth Street space and on the 'interior screen' (ie. through closed eyes). Simultaneously the Lemurians and Nate Boyce and Phase Chancellor will each play an improvisationally-based hypnotic, psychedelic sound and image set, using delay time in the projected image, creating a feedback loop. *(Steve Polta, Caroline Savage)*

YBCA
Yerba Buena Center for the Arts
701 Mission Street at Third St.
www.ybca.org

CCA
California College of the Arts
1111 Eighth Street at Irwin St.
www.cca.edu

NINTH STREET
Ninth Street Independant Film Center
145 Ninth Street near Mission St.
www.ninthstreet.org

PROJECT ARTAUD
Project Artaud Theatre
450 Florida Street at Mariposa St.
www.artaud.org

Tickets (unless otherwise noted)
$8 General, $6 Members, Students, Seniors, Disabled
For advance tickets at YBCA call 415.978.ARTS
Other tickets at door only.
For Information call 415.552.1990

9.23 Beloff, *Charming Augustine*

10.1 Kudlacek, *Notes on Marie Menken*

10.15 Baille, *Here I am*

10.22 Krahn, *Piñata*

10.29 Schüpbach, *Falten*

11.1 Davis, *Ignorance Before Malice*

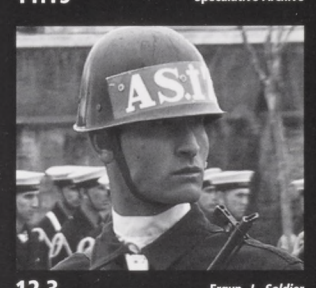
11.5 Gianikian + Ricci Lucchi, *Oh Uomo*

11.9 Evans, *by the wind sailor jellyfish*

11.12 Nelson, *True to Life*

11.17 O'Hara photographed by K. Elmslie

11.19 Speculative Archive



12.3 Ergun, *I , Soldier*

12.10 Dorsky, *Threnody*

12.14 Musgrave

SAN FRANCISCO CINEMATHEQUE